IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid sampler comprising:

a metering pump including a cylinder having ~~openings~~ at least one opening and a cavity, a piston inserted in the cavity, and a driving source for moving the piston; and

a pipette directly connected to one of the openings of the cylinder.

2. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1, wherein the pipette, the cylinder and the driving source are disposed in a coaxial relation.

3. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1, wherein the cylinder has a channel extending from an outer circumference thereof to the cavity for supplying a cleaning liquid into the cavity.

4. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 3, further comprising an electromagnetic valve provided in the vicinity of the cylinder for controlling the supply of the cleaning liquid into the cavity via the channel.

5. (Currently amended) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1, wherein the pipette ~~is~~ includes a disposable ~~pipette~~ tip connected to the opening in a detachable manner.

6. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a driving mechanism for moving the metering pump having the pipette in at least one-dimensional directions.

7. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a driving mechanism for horizontally and vertically moving the metering pump having the pipette.

8. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1, wherein the driving source comprises a stepping motor, and a converting section for converting a rotational motion of the stepping motor into a linear motion and transmitting the linear motion to the piston.

9. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a liquid surface detecting section for detecting contact of a distal end of the pipette with a liquid surface.

10. (Original) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 9,

wherein the pipette is composed of an electrically conductive material,

wherein the liquid surface detecting section detects the liquid surface on the basis of a change in electrostatic capacity between the pipette and the liquid surface.

11. (Previously presented) An analyzer comprising:

a liquid sampler which comprises a metering pump including a cylinder having openings and a cavity, a piston in the cavity, a driving source for moving the piston, and a pipette directly connected to one of the openings of the cylinder;

a driving mechanism for driving the liquid sampler to prepare a test sample;

and

an analyzing section for analyzing the test sample.

12. (Previously presented) An analyzer as set forth in claim 11, wherein the analyzing section comprises a detection member which includes a channel having an inlet and an outlet provided at opposite ends thereof and an orifice provided between the inlet and the outlet, and a detection section for detecting a change in impedance of the test sample when the test sample flows through the orifice.

13 (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) An analyzer as set forth in claim 11~~12~~ further comprising a controlling section for controlling the driving source and the driving mechanism,

wherein the controlling section functions to control the ~~pump~~ driving source and the driving mechanism so as to cause the metering pump to

quantitatively suck a liquid sample from a specimen vessel for containing the liquid sample, quantitatively inject the sucked liquid sample into a reagent vessel for containing a predetermined volume of reagent to dilute the sucked liquid sample, and quantitatively inject the diluted liquid sample as the test sample into the analyzing section ~~inlet of the detection member~~.

15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) An analyzer as set forth in claim 11~~12~~ further comprising a controlling section for controlling the driving source and the driving mechanism,

wherein the controlling section functions to control the ~~pump~~ driving source and the driving mechanism so as to cause the metering pump to quantitatively suck a liquid sample from a specimen vessel for containing the liquid sample, quantitatively inject the sucked liquid sample into a reagent vessel for containing a predetermined volume of reagent to dilute the sucked liquid sample, suck a hemolyzing agent ~~from a hemolyzing agent~~ from a hemolyzing agent vessel for containing the hemolyzing agent, inject the sucked hemolyzing agent into the reagent vessel to hemolyze the diluted liquid sample, and quantitatively inject the hemolyzed liquid sample as the test sample into the analyzing section ~~inlet of the detection member~~.

17 to 22 (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 11, wherein the test sample is prepared from a blood specimen and a reagent.

24. (Currently Amended) An analyzer comprising:

a liquid sampler for preparing a test sample from a liquid sample and a reagent, the liquid sampler including a metering pump, a pipette connected to the metering pump and a driving source for driving the metering pump;

a reagent cassette holder for holding a reagent cassette that stores plural types of reagents in a detachable manner, the reagent cassette storing the reagent; and

an analyzing section for analyzing the test sample.

25. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 24, further comprising a detecting cassette holder for holding a detecting cassette in a detachable manner, the detecting cassette detecting the test sample;

wherein the liquid sampler supplies the test sample to the detecting cassette and the analyzing section analyzes a result detected by the detecting cassette.

26. (Canceled).

27. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 24 further comprising a detector having a light source and a light receiver,
wherein the light source irradiates the test sample, the light receiver obtains an optical information from the test sample and the analyzing section analyzes the optical information.

28. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 27,
wherein the liquid sampler prepares the test sample in the reagent cassette and the light source irradiates the test sample in the reagent cassette.

29. (Canceled).

30. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 24,
wherein the reagent cassette is detached from the reagent cassette holder after the test sample is analyzed.

31. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 24,
wherein the liquid sample is a blood specimen.

32. (Currently amended) An analyzer comprising
a liquid sampler for preparing a test sample from a liquid sample and a reagent, the liquid sampler ~~including~~ comprises a metering pump including a

cylinder having at least one opening, and a pipette directly connected to one of the openings of the cylinder~~to the metering pump~~;

a driving source for driving the metering pump;

a detecting cassette holder for holding a detecting cassette in a detachable manner, the detecting cassette detecting the test sample; and

an analyzing section for analyzing a result detected by the detecting cassette.

33. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 32,

wherein the detecting cassette detects the test sample to obtain an electrical information from the test sample and the analyzing section analyzes the electrical information.

34. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 32, further comprising a reagent cassette holder for holding a reagent cassette in a detachable manner, the reagent cassette storing a reagent to be used for preparing the test sample.

35. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 32,

wherein the detecting cassette is detached from the detecting cassette holder after the test sample is analyzed.

36. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 32,

wherein the detecting cassette comprises a drain container for storing the test sample after the test sample is detected by the detecting cassette.

37. (Canceled).

38. (Previously presented) The analyzer of claim 32,

wherein the liquid sample is a blood specimen.

39. (New) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the piston moves such that a volume of liquid drawn or delivered by the liquid sampler is substantially 2 μL.

40. (New) A liquid sampler as set forth in claim 8,

wherein the stepping motor moves the piston 0.00635mm for each step of stepwise rotation of the stepping motor.